

## NEWS OF THE DAY

"To show the very age and body of the Times."

Oscola, Pa., was nearly destroyed by fire yesterday. Nearly all the public buildings and two hundred dwellings were burned, rendering twelve hundred people homeless. The loss is estimated at two millions of dollars, with comparatively light insurance. The fire originated in a saw mill, and millions of feet of lumber in the vicinity were destroyed. No lives were lost up to the last report. The people are in destitute circumstances, they having lost property and everything else. Reports are also received of large and destructive fires in other parts of Pennsylvania, notably in the mining regions, and evidently the work of incendiaries. Much alarm prevails.

The Secretary of State gives notice that the pamphlet edition of the laws of the second session of the Forty-third Congress prepared pursuant to law, is ready for sale at the Department of State. The price as fixed by law is sixty-five cents. The volume can be forwarded by mail on the receipt of the price and six cents (the legal postage) additional, or by express, as the purchaser may direct, in either case at his own risk.

The Postmaster General will in a few days issue an order regulating the transmission of registered mail matter between the principal cities of the country. Under the new system all registered matter will be put up in separate pouches, with keys only at the points of departure and destination, thus obviating the necessity of handling such mail matter in transit.

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States met in St. Louis yesterday morning. The assembly represents all the Southern States and Illinois, Ohio and Missouri. A large number of delegates were present. Dr. M. D. Hoge, of Richmond, Va., was elected Moderator. No other business was transacted.

The Fifteenth Anniversary of the American Tract Society was held in Chicago on Wednesday night. During the year the total receipts were \$652,872; expenses, \$650,187. During the last half century the society has printed 5,230,397,338 copies of publications. Its total receipts have been \$13,597,589. Very satisfactory progress was reported.

A party of colored people hired Willard's Hall, Washington, yesterday, for the purpose of having a party and dance, but Mr. Calkins, the proprietor, refused to permit its use for the latter purpose and turned off the gas, whereupon the party procured lamps and candles and again lit up the hall. The police finally cleared the building.

Abraham Jackson, one of the most prominent lawyers of Boston, and a former president of a safe manufacturing company, disappeared from that city last Friday, and investigation of his affairs since then develops most astounding dishonesty on his part, involving a loss of over \$150,000 to many persons for whose funds he acted as custodian.

The Democratic Conservative Convention of Baltimore city last evening elected Charles G. Kerr, esq., President of the Convention, and Wm. F. McKenney, esq., Chairman of the City Executive Committee. Primary meetings for the election of delegates to a convention to nominate a candidate for Mayor take place on the 23d of June.

A distressing accident occurred to a party of firemen engaged in blasting in Frederick county, Md., yesterday. They had returned to a charge which had from some cause failed to explode at the expected time, and on their arrival the blast occurred, injuring them all seriously, and some probably fatally.

The Postmaster General has issued an order for the re-letting of those postal contracts in which frauds were recently discovered. No bids will be received from the parties who were guilty of frauds in connection with the previous contracts.

The laborers in the Rosendale, N. Y., cement quarries have struck for higher wages, and from twelve to fifteen mills have shut down, throwing about one thousand men out of employment.

A committee on a bill of rights has reported to the Missouri constitutional convention in favor of taxing church property. It is said that the new constitution will prohibit clergy-men from holding political offices.

At Fleetwood Park, New York, races yesterday, G. H. Mitchell took the last three of seven heats over Lothair and Haviland, winning the \$1,500 purse. Haviland took the first heat and made the best time in 2:29.

LOUDBON COUNTY ITEMS.—The various orders of Good Templars, in this county, are making extensive preparations for a grand temperance celebration in the grove near Hamilton, on Wednesday, the 9th of June. Several distinguished speakers from a distance have been heard from, who will certainly be on hand and participate in the exercises of the occasion.

The Commissioner of the Sheep Fund, in Loudoun, advertises that all claims against said fund for sheep killed by dogs between the first day of February, 1874, and the first day of February, 1875, must be laid before him on or before the 14th of June, (next day.) After that no claim created between the dates above named can be received.

Mr. Craven Howell, near Round Hill, has a calf a little more than one week old that weighs one hundred and twenty-five pounds. It weighed 104 pounds when calved. It has never sucked the cow, but has been hand-fed all the time. It is said to be the finest formed and most fully developed specimen of veal in that section.

We are sorry to learn that the potato bug has already made its appearance in the potato patches of Loudoun, and threaten the destruction of the whole crop. Wherever the young vines have shown themselves on the top of the earth, lo! these pestiferous creatures are there also.

Mr. John B. Lockhart, residing at Round Hill, rode a very fine mare to Leesburg on Monday morning. Soon after his arrival the animal was seized with cholera and died in a few hours. Mr. L. had refused \$300 for her.

The president and officers of the Central Memorial Association of Loudoun, are busily engaged in endeavoring to arrange for Confederate Memorial Day on the fifth of June.

We understand that the advance guard of the dreaded grasshopper, so destructive in late years to vegetation in various parts of the country, has reached our borders.

The registration list at Leesburg precinct, this spring, shows a registration of 38 new votes—23 whites and 15 colored.—*Loudoun Mirror.*

VIRGINIA IRON.—The Washington Sunday Chronicle says: Iron ore deposits in Virginia are beginning to attract the attention of Northern capitalists, who are either making large purchases of land or organizing companies to do so. There is no doubt that the ore now found in Virginia is superior to that mined anywhere on Lake Superior or to the famous Cornwall ore of Pennsylvania. The Virginia ore is the purest produced on the continent, and when once fairly in the market will overrule the prices for all others. Think of the Old Dominion becoming the great iron State in the Union! The ore in her bosom is worth almost as much as the blood of Pocahontas in her veins. The day is not far distant when she will turn out the best iron and steel produced in the world.

## CONSERVATIVE MEETINGS.

## Ward Nominations.

As will be seen by the subjoined reports the Conservatives of the city, met in their respective Wards last night, and nominated candidates for Aldermen and Councilmen.

## FIRST WARD.

The First Ward meeting was held at No. 34 Prince street, and was one of the largest ever held in that Ward. One hundred and fifty-six voters passing between the tellers.

It was called to order by M. H. Nash, Ward Superintendent, who read the call and stated the object for which the Conservatives of the Ward had assembled.

Ex-Mayor Latham was elected Chairman, and Mr. A. J. Wedderburn having been appointed Secretary, with Deputy Sergeant H. C. Nevitt, as assistant, stated and explained the manner in which the balloting would be conducted, and that a majority of the whole number of votes cast would be necessary to make a nomination, and appointed M. H. Nash and George A. Musbach, tellers.

W. A. Moore was then announced as a candidate for the nomination as Alderman, and as he had no opposition the vote was taken viva voce, and he was declared the unanimous choice of the party as their candidate.

The names of W. S. Moore, Joseph Hopkins, D. L. Smoot, Hugh Latham, Isaac Eichberg, U. M. Monroe, Wm. Chauncey, and Orlando Wood, were then announced as candidates for the nomination as Councilmen, and a ballot having been taken the result was announced as follows: W. S. Moore 114, Jos. Hopkins 104, D. L. Smoot 82, H. Latham 79, Isaac Eichberg 78, U. M. Monroe 63, Orlando Wood 26, Wm. Chauncey 21, and 79 being a majority of the whole number of votes cast.

Moore, Hopkins, Smoot and Latham were declared the elected nominees.

Charles L. Neale was then nominated as candidate for Justice of the Peace, and James Bonis as candidate for Constable, without opposition, and the meeting adjourned.

## SECOND WARD.

The meeting of the Conservative voters of the Second Ward was held at the hall of the Sun Fire Company, in the Market House building, and was one of the largest and most harmonious meetings that has ever occurred in that Ward.

The meeting was called to order a few minutes after eight o'clock by Edgar Snowden, Jr., Ward Superintendent, who stated the object for which the voters had been convened, and on motion of J. P. Coleman, Mr. Snowden was called to the chair and George R. Shinn elected Secretary.

The meeting then proceeded to nominate two candidates for the Board of Aldermen, (one to fill the vacancy occurring by the expiration of the term of office of Samuel H. Janney, and one for the place of R. M. Lawson, who resigns his position, to take effect July 1, 1875,) and the following were placed in nomination, viz: Samuel H. Janney, Lewis McKenney and Joseph Broders. The ballot was then taken with the following result: S. H. Janney 93, Lewis McKenney 86, Jos. Broders 20, scattering 3, and the chair declared Messrs. Janney and McKenney as the regular nominees of the party.

Nominations for the Board of Common Council being then in order the following names were proposed to the meeting: W. H. Herbert, Geo. R. Shinn, W. H. Marbury, Geo. L. Simpson, Jos. Broders and M. B. Harlow, and a resolution was adopted that the four candidates receiving the highest number of votes should be declared the nominees.

The ballot being taken the following was announced as the vote: Geo. L. Shinn 106, Jos. Broders 105, Geo. L. Simpson 72, M. B. Harlow 65, W. H. Herbert 49, W. H. Marbury 40, scattering 3, and the chair declared Messrs. Geo. L. Shinn, Jos. Broders, Geo. L. Simpson and M. B. Harlow the nominees of the Convention, and there being no further business the meeting adjourned.

## THIRD WARD.

This meeting surpassed in numbers that of any other held in this Ward within the memory of the oldest inhabitants. The active and earnest electioneering which the respective friends of Messrs. James T. Beckham and E. E. Downing had carried on throughout the day for the position of Alderman, in the place of Dr. D. M. French, who had declined a re-nomination, drew together at the old Court House in the evening a large crowd, which filled the building to overflowing, there being present nearly 500 persons. The room was very poorly illuminated, being without gas, but the voters animated with expectations of the success of the candidates of their choice, wrote their ballots either by

"The pale moon-beams misty light,  
Or the candles dimly burning."

At a few minutes past 8 o'clock, Capt. James M. Stewart, whose duty, as a member of the Executive Committee, was to organize the meeting, called it to order and announced that nominations for Chairman would be received, and thereupon Mr. Ewell Atwell nominated Capt. James M. Stewart, who declined to act, saying that he could not put the question of his own nomination, and suggested that Col. Wm. Kilgour be substituted in his place.

That gentleman also declined but was nevertheless unanimously chosen Chairman.

The Chair stated nominations for Secretary were in order, and Messrs. Geo. Bryan, John T. Nugent and R. C. Lee were put in nomination, and the latter gentleman declining, the first two were elected.

Mr. Kilgour, on taking the chair, said: "Gentlemen of the Convention—You are aware of the objects for which you have assembled this evening, and of the duties you are required to fulfill. To you my thanks are due for the honor you have conferred in calling me to the chair, and I shall look to your kindness and intelligence for support and guidance in the duties I am required to perform. Whatever may be the results of this contest we know that the Conservatives of this Ward have gathered here to nominate good and true men, who will unflinchingly execute whatever trust may be reposed in their keeping, with honesty and fidelity, and to the credit and honor of the city of Alexandria. It is true we are oppressed with a burdensome and onerous taxation, the difficulties of which will require wisdom and economy to surmount. We are soon to enter upon another campaign broader and grander in its scope, and fraught with a greater consequence to the country than possibly any that have preceded it, and in that contest the name of Alexandria honestly sustaining her responsibilities, and doing her duty; will be placed upon the roll of honor, 'equalled by few and surpassed by none.'"

The remarks of the Chairman were received with applause.

Col. C. F. Suttle presented a preamble and resolutions which he said another gentleman, (Col. Kilgour) requested him to present, which are as follows:

Whereas the voters of this Ward are gravely impressed with the great importance of maintaining the credit of the city, and in order to better support the same they are in favor of a sure and rigid system of retrenchment and economy in every branch appertaining to the city government; and whilst they deeply feel and labor under the onerous taxation resulting from the bonded debt of the city, yet not wishing to shrink from any honest debt that may have been incurred; therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of this meeting that any and all obligations fairly and deliberately entered into should be honestly maintained, and all efforts should be used to carry out in letter and in spirit each and every contract, thus preserving our integrity of character and honesty of motive.

The resolutions were unanimously adopted.

Capt. James M. Stewart arose to make an explanation, and said it was a duty to himself and another to state that he had heard a rumor

had been spread abroad that a ring had been formed to nominate a certain gentleman for the Board of Aldermen, but God bear him witness if such was the case he knew nothing of it, and those who knew him knew that he was not a party to any such transaction. In conversation upon the street the name of Mr. Beckham had been suggested to him as a suitable candidate, and he had expressed himself in favor of that gentleman, but at that time he knew nothing of the candidacy of Mr. Downing, or any other candidate being in the field. If such reports were in circulation they were untrue and without foundation.

A motion to declare Mr. Beckham the candidate for Alderman by acclamation was promptly overruled by the Chair.

Col. Ashby moved that the Convention go into nomination for a member of the Board of Aldermen.

Col. M. D. Ball moved to amend by nominating candidates for the Common Council also.

The Chair—Is there any objection to the amendment on the part of the mover of the resolution.

Col. Ashby—I say of this amendment most emphatically no, and because to mix up the ballots for members of the Council with those for the Board of Aldermen is contrary to the customs and usages of the Ward. It would be introducing confusion into this meeting, and I withdraw the amendment.

Col. Ball, interrupting—I withdraw it; I withdraw the amendment.

The motion to go into nomination was carried, and Messrs. James T. Beckham, E. E. Downing and Thomas Rishell were put in nomination.

Mr. Rishell withdrew his name.

Mr. Douglas Stuart moved the Chair appoint the tellers, which was carried.

The Chair appointed Messrs. L. E. Uhler and Ed. Norris.

Mr. Atwell moved that the voters be required to deposit their ballots with the tellers in order to prevent the voting of outsiders and non-residents of the Ward, which was carried.

Much confusion was created by the efforts of the crowd to deposit their ballots, which was, in a measure, obviated, by the Chair directing them to approach the tellers from the right and depart to the left. Fully half an hour's time was consumed by the crowd filing past the tellers and depositing their ballots.

Capt. Stewart moved that the polls be closed which was carried.

The Chair enjoined order and the counting of the ballots began amidst intense excitement, great interest being manifested, owing to the scores running nearly even, and it becoming impossible to predicate anything concerning the result.

The ballot having been concluded, the Chair announced the result to be, total number of votes cast 270, of which Mr. E. E. Downing received 151, Mr. Beckham 119, and declared Mr. Downing nominated.

Mr. Beckham moved that Mr. Downing's nomination be declared unanimous, which was carried.

The Chair then announced that nominations for four members of the Common Council were in order, and the following gentlemen were put in nomination: Thos. Rishell, Jos. S. Beach, A. Schofield, Wm. H. Fowler, Wm. F. Carne, Josiah Ford, B. F. Price, F. L. Brockett and Robert Porter.

Mr. Atwell said that Mr. Porter had declined to become a candidate.

The nominations were then closed.

Mr. May moved that the four gentlemen receiving the highest number of votes on the first ballot be declared the nominees, which motion was carried.

The Chair announced the whole number of votes cast to be 201, of which number Mr. Rishell received 133, Mr. Schofield 136, Mr. Fowler 125, Mr. Beach 141, Mr. Brockett 80, Mr. Carne 49, Mr. Price 48, Mr. Ford 78, Mr. Wadley 8, and Mr. Beckham 3. Messrs. Fowler, Schofield, Beach and Rishell having received the highest number of votes, were declared the nominees.

These gentlemen are the present incumbents, and their re-nomination is an endorsement of their course.

Messrs. W. H. May and P. G. Uhler were nominated for Justices of the Peace unanimously.

Henry Gray, Cassius Brunner, John Ward, Francis Lowry and Bernard Clive, were nominated for Constable.

Mr. Clive declined; 42 ballots were cast. Lovejoy receiving 33; Gray, 11; Ward, 11. The Chair declared Mr. Lovejoy nominated.

A motion to adjourn was then carried.

FOURTH WARD.

The meeting in this Ward was called to order by Capt. P. B. Hooe, who nominated Mr. Geo. E. French as Chairman, and on motion of E. Lee, Jr., was made Secretary.

The object of the meeting was stated to be for the purpose of nominating candidates for Board of Aldermen and the Common Council.

Jos. B. Smoot and P. B. Hooe were nominated as candidates for the position of Aldermen, but declined, when Mr. S. C. Neale was nominated by Captain Hooe, seconded by J. B. Smoot and E. S. Leadbeater, and unanimously selected for Alderman from the Ward.

For candidates for the Common Council, E. A. Reed, Courtland H. Smith, P. R. Evans, E. Hughes, R. H. Rudd, J. B. Smoot and W. F. Vincent, were nominated.

The chair appointed E. S. Leadbeater and Jao. J. Jamieson as tellers, to count the ballots.

First ballot, 33 votes cast, 17 necessary to a choice—Smoot 32, Evans 24, Vincent 17, Smith 16, Hughes 14, Rudd 15, Rudd 6, Bryant 1. So Messrs. Smoot, Evans and Vincent were declared the nominees of the meeting.

Second ballot, 36 votes cast, 19 necessary to a choice—Smith 11, Rudd 11, Hughes 8, Reed 6. No choice.

Third ballot, votes cast 38, necessary to a choice 20—Smith 14, Rudd 11, Hughes 7, Reed 6. No choice and lowest dropped.

Fourth ballot, 36 votes cast, 19 necessary to a choice—Smith 18, Rudd 13, Hughes 5. No choice and lowest dropped.

Fifth ballot, 39 votes cast, 20 necessary to a choice—Smith 23, Rudd 14, So Mr. Smith was nominated.

W. F. Nalls was nominated for Magistrate and Andrew Nicholson for Constable.

On motion the nominations were made unanimous and the meeting adjourned.

Episcopal Council.

[Correspondence of the Alexandria Gazette.]

SECOND DAY.

RICHMOND, May 20.—The Council was called to order at 9 o'clock by Bishop Johns, and opened with prayer by Rev. H. Suter.

The Committee on Credentials reported about twenty additional lay delegates as present.

Bishop Johns then submitted his annual report, which was one of unusual interest, and in which he states that notwithstanding the many obstacles in the way the Church has continued to prosper since the last convention.

The Bishop gives an interesting account of his visit to the General Convention held in New York on the 16th of October. He says that convention, in respectability, talent and courtesy, was certainly unsurpassed by any similar assembly with which he has been acquainted. He says: "Although all we may have deemed desirable was not allowed, enough was accomplished in reference to matters of great importance to afford us sincere satisfaction."

The Bishop states that with the exception of the lamented Bishop John Payne, no death has occurred among the ministers of this diocese. The Bishop alludes in touching terms to the life and work of that beloved servant of God. The report shows that there is an unusually large number of students at the Theological Seminary at Alexandria, and this, too, notwithstanding the general financial depression in this and other dioceses. The Bishop

states further in this connection, that while other similar institutions elsewhere have had a falling off in their attendance this year, the Theological Seminary, at Alexandria, has had an increase.

Bishop White also submitted his report, which was mainly a record of his work during the past year, and which shows that the Church is in a very prosperous condition.

Mr. L. D. Hammond offered a resolution instructing the Trustees of the Virginia Female Institute to report to the Council the financial status of that institution, the value of the property, liabilities and resources, and to report to the Council so that it may determine whether it will attempt to exercise any control over it. Adopted.

At this hour, 11 o'clock, the Council took a recess for divine service.

The Council reassembled at half-past one o'clock.

The Rev. George H. Nelson submitted the following report from the standing committee: The standing committee report that since the last Council they have recommended for consecration the following: Rev. T. V. Dudley, D. D., Assistant Bishop elect of Kentucky; Rev. John Scarborough, D. D., Bishop elect of New Jersey; Rev. G. D. Gillespie, D. D., Bishop elect of West Michigan; Rev. Dr. Jagger, Bishop elect of Southern Ohio; and also declining to recommend Rev. Dr. McKee, Bishop elect of Illinois.

The following deacons have been recommended for priests' orders: Rev. John Ambler, Rev. Edward Henry Ward, Rev. Alexander Overly, Rev. H. M. Melville Jackson, Rev. Arthur S. Johns, Rev. L. R. Mason.

The following have been recommended for deacons' orders: T. G. Scott, Edward Wall, Melville Boyd, Charles I. Holt, Richard Elderly, Theodore Reed, George Hertert Kinsolving, James W. Shields, George W. Nelson, John W. Magill.

The following are recommended as candidates for holy orders: Emile Julian Hall, Thomas Spencer, W. W. Walker, John J. Lloyd, George C. Sutton, P. M. Boyden, Francis D. Lee, Robert F. Jackson, E. A. Penick, Nelson P. Dame, L. W. Saltonstall, James Ridout Winchester, Isaac L. Yokoyama.

Rev. G. W. Dame submitted a preamble and resolutions proposing the appointment of a committee of three clergymen and three laymen to take into consideration the feasibility of establishing in this diocese not less than four church schools. In said schools the children of the clergy canonically resident in this diocese are to be educated free of all expense, and the expenses of the education of the children of other churchmen, resident in the parish, are not to exceed \$100. Adopted and a committee appointed with instructions to report to the next meeting of the Council.

On motion of Dr. Norton, it was determined that the next session of the Council be held in Alexandria.

Dr. Norton also presented the report of the Treasurer of the Board for the relief of disabled clergy, and moved its reference to a committee.

By the same, a resolution instructing the Treasurer of the Diocese to pay on or before the first day of July to Rev. J. S. Hauckel, Rev. R. S. Davis and Rev. Charles Minoiger, examining chaplains, the sum of \$100, was referred to the Finance Committee.

On motion of Dr. Minoiger, all visiting clergymen and students were invited to seats in the Council.

Bishop Johns announced the appointment of the following committees:

On Episcopal Fund: Rev. G. Woodbridge, Robert Douthal.

Finance: N. H. Massie, J. R. Anderson, Tazewell Taylor, H. W. Sheffey.

Elections: Rev. A. Wharton, John M. Patton. Accounts of Treasury of Missionary Society: Rev. W. C. Meredith, S. S. Bradford.

Special Committee on Fund for Relief of Disabled Clergy: Rev. M. Maury, Colonel H. Jones, E. A. Harlow.

Widows and Orphans: Rev. H. Suter, R. T. Davis, A. Wade, Dr. E. Ambler, Leonard Carter, H. C. McCandish.

New Parishes: Rev. W. Norwood, P. Sluichter, E. H. Angle, R. T. Craighead, John H. Claiborne, J. C. Cooke.

On Clerical Support: N. H. Massie, H. Moore, General F. H. Smith, Alex. Laidley, John M. Patton, Dr. R. C. Ambler, Wm. H. Clarke, Ed. Hutton, Dr. J. R. Purdie, Dr. D. C. Gordon.

Dr. Dame's Resolutions: Rev. Mr. Dame, Rev. O. Barton, John B. Newton, Thomas Moon, Wm. S. Barron, A. T. Laidley.

S. Church: Rev. J. S. Hanckel, O. S. Barton, W. O. Halliwell, J. F. Woods, O. S. Kinsolving; lay, Dr. Thomas Withers, J. M. Whittle, P. J. Hildreth, General Smith, Edmond L. Lee, Jr.

Parochial Reports: Rev. C. J. Gibson, J. Grammer, T. M. Carson, W. Taylor, W. C. Yeaton, J. B. Bryan.

The Council then adjourned until to-morrow.

Letter from R. D. Beckley.

The Staunton Virginian publishes the following letter from R. D. Beckley, of this city, proposing a new departure in politics, remarking, however, "that his proposition is entirely impracticable, and that the Republicans of Virginia have no desire or purpose to change their organization."

ALEXANDRIA, Va., April 6th, 1875.

HON. JOHN F. LEWIS—Dear Sir and Friend:

I notice in the Richmond Whig, and other papers of this State, a call published by the colored members of the Legislature for a convention of the colored people to meet in Richmond, August 19th, proximo. I am not advised as to the purpose of the lead—is in this move, though many of them have conferred with me as to the propriety of calling the convention, but from correspondence which I have held with some, I infer that the object will be, when they meet, to cut loose from the present white leaders of the Republican party in this State, who assume to control the hundred thousand negro voters in the State and misrepresent them at Washington. It is true that the negroes are tired of being led as sheep to the slaughter and as a lamb dumb before his shearer, without being consulted in the matter. When it comes to vote the negro must vote for them, and with them, but when it comes to divide the fruits of victory the negro is not consulted; when it comes to a participation in the benefits of party success the negro is not wanted; he is not known. My opinion is, no power in the shape of promises can long keep us together. Promises have ceased to be efficacious because we have been fed upon them until nature demands something more substantial.

Now, my dear Sir, I wish to call your attention to a plan that I have upon my mind, and ask your advice as to the propriety of the move. It is this: you or some of the leading old time Whigs invite a convention of the old time Whigs when the convention meets let them adopt a liberal platform of principles, a platform that all good men of both races can stand upon. After that has been completed, invite the colored men of the State to co-operate and come into the party with you and take part, and I am sure that all the leading colored men, the influential and most respectable of the State will join you. By this means we will be able to break down the present leaders of both political parties in this State, place the control of the State in the hands of wise men and statesmen, make a proper and substantial disposition of the State debt, reduce taxation, revive immigration, increase the price of land, develop our mineral wealth and in a few years the people of this State would forget that there ever was such a thing as race and color.

It is true that the democratic party is using the old time Whigs for the same purpose that the white carpet-bagger uses the negro, to vote

with them and put them in power and office and when it comes to a distribution of the benefits of the victory, Mr. Whig you are not known. I would be more than pleased to have your views and your advice and as all good thinking colored men of this State know that you are faithful and friendly to the colored race, I would be more than pleased to have a word of counsel from you.

I am, sir, your obedient servant.

R. D. BECKLEY.

## VIRGINIA NEWS.

Last Saturday morning "The Glen," a stone dwelling belonging to the heirs of the late Leroy P. Williams, situated near Wickliffe Church, in Clarke county, accidentally caught fire and was destroyed. There was about \$1,500 insurance on the property.

The largest bass ever taken from the Shenandoah river was caught one day last week, near the Tiltwham Mill, by Mr. Jos. Dwyer. The bass weighed six pounds, and was caught in a net.

Monday next is the anniversary of the birth day of Her Majesty, Queen Victoria, and will be celebrated in Richmond by the British Association of Virginia.

WILLIAM AND MARY COLLEGE.—A meeting of the Alumni, members of the Faculty, and members of the Board of Visitors of William and Mary College was held in the Senate chamber, in Richmond, last night. An Alumni Society was organized, with General W. B. Talbot, of Gloucester, as president. It was resolved to meet on July 1, commencement day, in Williamsburg, to further perfect the organization. The selection of an orator was left to the Executive Committee. Professor Jewell spoke gratefully of Hon. Mr. Horner's efforts in Congress to get an appropriation for William and Mary, and of his proposition to raise \$100,000 for the college in New England, and the Executive Committee was instructed to draw a series of resolutions acknowledging the indebtedness of the friends of the college to Mr. Horner. The Executive Committee was requested to endeavor to ascertain where the bust of Sir Walter Raleigh is, and if in existence to try to get possession of it; and also to inquire about repairing Lord Botetourt's statue.